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"Montevideo Declaration", adopted in Montevideo on 19 May 1995 by Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela

Note by the Administrator

1. The Administrator has been requested, in a letter of 1 June 1995 from the Permanent Mission of Argentina, that the "Montevideo Declaration", adopted in Montevideo on 19 May 1995 by Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela, be circulated as an official document under item 8 of the provisional agenda of the annual session 1995.

2. Accordingly, the Administrator has the honour to transmit the annexed Declaration to the Executive Board.

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Annex

MONTEVIDEO DECLARATION

The States members of the Latin American Economic System (LAES), on the occasion of the Tenth Meeting of Directors of International Technical Cooperation held in Montevideo, Uruguay, from 15 to 19 May 1995, analysed and established their position on the sixth programming cycle of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), with a view to the forthcoming session of the UNDP Executive Board to be held in June 1995 at United Nations Headquarters in New York, by means of the following Declaration:

Reaffirming resolution 2688 (XXV) of 11 December 1970 on the capacity of the United Nations development system (1970 consensus),

Taking into consideration decision 351 of the Latin American Council of LAES on the main criteria for the sixth programming cycle of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP),

Taking into account the Asunción Declaration of 23 March 1995 (Doc. SP/RDCTI 95/DT No. 6),

Considering that the economic and social development of Latin America and the Caribbean remains to be achieved, despite the progress made so far,

Asserting that the argument of the region's relatively greater development is used to restrict its access to international cooperation, and

Reiterating their concern at the decrease in voluntary financial contributions to the system of operational activities in general and to UNDP in particular,

DECIDE:

1. To express their concern at the marked decrease in the region's share in the allocation of financial resources from the United Nations Development Programme.

2. To reaffirm the principle of eligibility of all developing countries on the basis of universality.

3. To demand that the "floor" principle be strictly maintained at its current levels.

4. To recommend that graduation thresholds be raised in accordance with the criteria established by the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD/DAC) for 1995, and to insist on the need to adopt a progressive graduation process for countries which exceed those thresholds.

5. To express their agreement with the three-year rolling planning scheme proposed for the framework for UNDP cooperation at the national level as from 1997, provided that an acceptable and sustained resource flow can be ensured.

6. To draw attention to the pressing need to maintain the present system for allocating resources to individual countries, which guarantees that the priorities set by those countries are observed, and to that end to emphasize the importance of merging budget lines 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 in table 1 of document DP/1995/32 so that they can be made available to countries immediately.

7. To demand that the resources proposed for intercountry (regional, global, interregional and special) programmes and projects be allocated equitably among the different recipient regions.

8. To reiterate how important it is that the operational activities carried out by the United Nations system for the benefit of developing countries, including technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC), should respond strictly to the national priorities set by those countries.

9. To emphasize that the programming of activities within the framework of UNDP should take account of concerted programming strategies for the mobilization of resources from different funding sources, to which end they urge UNDP to obtain resources that are additional to countries' voluntary contributions.

10. To emphasize that it is for the countries of the region to define the issues that are to be covered in the regional programme, which must become a Latin American and Caribbean instrument for promoting integration, and that those countries need to be more actively involved in all phases of project implementation (identification, design, formulation, monitoring and evaluation).

11. To propose the use of TCDC in procedures and mechanisms for project implementation, on the basis of initiatives decided by countries.

12. To reiterate their interest in seeing the Special Unit for TCDC increase its support for horizontal cooperation activities structured and agreed upon by the countries of the region, and in the identification of opportunities for trilateral cooperation.

Montevideo, 19 May 1995

NB. Representatives of the following member States participated: Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela.